

MEETING LOG

SUBJECT: ASTM F15.42 Subcommittee Task Group on Recliner Entrapment

FY 23 OP PLAN ENTRY: Recliners

DATE OF MEETING: 9/7/2023

LOCATION OF MEETING: Virtual

CPSC STAFF FILING MEETING LOG: Hope Nesteruk (EXHR)

FILING DATE: 9/7/2023

CPSC ATTENDEE(S): Hope Nesteruk (EXHR)

NON-CPSC ATTENDEE(S): Contact ASTM for the full attendee list

Summary of Meeting:

This was the second meeting of the task group, which was formed during the July 10, 2023 ASTM F15.42 Furniture Safety subcommittee meeting on recliner-related hazards. This task group's focus is addressing child entrapment hazards in recliners and other motion furniture in support of development of a new voluntary standard.

Task group members started the meeting by reviewing the work developed by the scope and preamble group, focusing on footrests that lift rather than "recliners." This approach is in line with the initial letter from CPSC staff that identified hazards to children related to entrapment within the footrest area.

The task group chair discussed new standards coming out of the EU that would cover entrapment in motorized furniture, expected to be published in the coming weeks. The EU group has spent 4 years analyzing the issue and developing requirements, and expressed a desire to harmonize standards for the global market.

After the previous meeting, the task group chair shared a number of standards that include entrapment provisions. CPSC staff raised that ASTM F1487 (Standard performance specification for publish playgrounds) has well developed requirements regarding foot-first entrapment, which could be applied to the gap between the seat and the footrest. Another member raised the force requirement in the UL 962 standard for motorized furniture, which used 40 lbs. The upcoming EU standard was based on known adult crushing forces, which will be about 30 pounds for around 30 seconds; however, these numbers were provided to the group as an estimate as there was not a copy of the standard for review prior to publication.

The task group also briefly discussed guarding as a way to prevent a child from going under the chair, for example covering the mechanism, and that guarding can be tested with probe tests.

Next Steps: The ASTM F15.42 subcommittee will meet next on September 21, 2023, in Kansas City, MO, by which point a copy of the EU standard should be available for the task group to review.